THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Improving the Thermal Power Plants

1414. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been undertaken for getting the most from the old thermal power plants in the country as reported in the Hindu dated 23rd February, 1989; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what corrective steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) When studies were carried out in regard to the performance of the old thermal power stations in the country, it was observed that the average Plant Load Factor (PLF) which was 55.4 per cent during 1976-77 had subsequently deteriorated. The causes for the same were analysed and a Centrally Sponsored Renovation and Modernisation programme for rectification of the defects of old thermal power stations was taken up in 1984. The sanctioned cost of this scheme is Rs. 1083 crores comprising Rs. 455 crores under Central Loan Assistance and Rs. 628 crores under State Plan/Own Resources.

The Renovation and Modernisation programme generally covers thermal units of rating of 110 MW and below, some units of 200|210 MW have also been included. A total of 34 power stations—comprising of 161 thermal units and aggregating to a capacity of 13585 MW—have been included in the programme. It is expected that an additional generation of about 7000 million units per year would accrue after the completion of the programme.

1415. [*Transferred to the 9th May, 1989*]

Survey on the performance of top engineering units

1416. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a survey on the performance of 100 top engineering units in the country;

(b) if so, what are the findings of the survey;

(c) what are the names of each engineering company or unit on which the survey was conducted; and

(d) the performance of these engineering units during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No Sir, the Government has not made any survey on the performance of 100 top engineering units in the country.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Shifting of registrants for LPG connections registered with M|s. Vishal Gas Service, Delhi

1417. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PATTNAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the applicants who got themselves registered for LPG connections with M|s. Vishal Gas Service in the Union Territory of Delhi have recently been asked to get their connections from some other dealer;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the case of those who registered themselves with M|s. Nandi Gas Distributor and M|s. Amar Gas Service in 1984-85 have not been asked to do so;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to remove the disparity in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Based on enrolment targets and customer holding, it is the normal practice, in the case of LPG distributorships which have reached the prescribed refill sales ceiling, to transfer registrations from one agency to another, operating below the ceiling, within the same trading area, depending on new connections being authorised .Such transfers are meant to ensure the viability of the concerned distributorships which are operating below economically viable limits and to reduce the waiting list.

Selling of burners, hotplates and rubber pipe at double rates by LPG distributors

1418. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PATTNAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the LPG distributors in the country specially in the Union Territory of Delhi are at present selling gas burners/hotplates and rubber pipes etc. at double the rates than prevailing in the open market which is within the knowledge of the top officials of the companies;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct an enquiry into the matter; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLUEM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, all LPG distributors are required to prominently display a notice in their showrooms that it is not obligatory for a consumer to purchase stoves/burners from the distributor releasing the connection. Complaints received in this regard by the oil companies from the consumers are investigated promptly, and action against erring distributors is taken in line with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

खाना पकाने की गैस सिलिण्डरों के फट जाने पर बचाव तथा रोकथाम के उपाय

1419. श्री सुनील कुमार पटनायक : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड दिल्ली के चीफ एरिया मैनेजर ने रसोई गैस सिलिण्डरों के फट [illegible] होने वाली दुर्घटनाओं में बचाव तथा रोकथाम के उपायों के संबंध में दूरदर्शन और रेडियो पर कुछ सुझाव दिए थे ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में आम जनता की भलाई के लिए समय समय पर कैम्प लगाए जाने तथा स्कूलों में बचाव और रोकथाम संबंधी उपायों का प्रदर्शन करने तथा इस बावत आवश्यक सुझाव देने का विचार है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री ब्रह्म दत्त) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) [illegible]

[illegible] आती है । [illegible] आधार पर एल० पी० जी० वितरकों के डिलीवरी मैनों के लिए प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम चलाए जाते हैं ।